



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Health and Food Safety Directorate General

sante.g.3(2023)6090274

Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed
Section *Animal Health and Welfare*
26 May 2023

CIRCABC Link: <https://circabc.europa.eu/ui/group/55b2edd3-069e-40fd-ad4a-8b163f54ff1f/library/d36ff9ae-0fd1-41e0-8ee0-8fec085e3c37>

SUMMARY REPORT

A.01 General information by Member States.

No item raised.

A.02 Information from Member States on African swine fever.

Czechia, Greece, Italy, Poland, Germany and Romania presented the ASF epidemiological situation in their territories. Greece, Italy and Poland, being also the Member States that still have the regionalisation revised with the written procedure next week, presented the proposed revision to the other Member States.

A.03 Presentation from EFSA on the latest overview report on the epidemiological situation with avian influenza.

EFSA presented the main findings resulting from the assessment of the epidemiological situation with avian influenza in Europe and worldwide in March and April 2023, published on 13 May 2023. The main affected species of wild birds during the period were the colony-breeding seabirds, in particular black-headed seagulls. These are expected to migrate in the next period towards East and North and presenting a risk for poultry establishments in those areas. As options for response to the risk, EFSA suggest enhancing of early detection in poultry by active surveillance. The risk posed by the currently circulating HPAI viruses to mammals and options for response to this risk, have also been highlighted.

A.04 Information from Member States on highly pathogenic avian influenza.

France and Germany presented the updated epidemiological situation with the disease and the measures taken to control and eradicate the disease.

A.05 Report on the ASF EUVET mission to Czechia (10 to 12 May 2023).

The EUVET teamleader presented the results and recommendations of the ASF EUVET mission carried out in Czechia from 10 to 12 May 2023. He reminded Member States of best practices to implement in case of focal introduction of ASF in a new, previously disease-free zone.

A.06 Information from Spain on sheep pox and goat pox.

Spain presented an update of their SPGP epidemiological situation. In Castilla-La Mancha one new outbreak (2023/7) was confirmed on 17/05/2023, in the province of Cuenca, in the municipality of Casas de Fernando Alonso, after more than a month since the last outbreak and more than four months after the latest outbreaks in Cuenca (la Alberca de Záncara, Tébar). The age of the lesions indicates that infection may have taken place a month before. The presentation was followed by a flash report from a member of the EUVET team that had just carried out a mission in Spain, in relation to SPGP (24-26 May 2023). Recommendations of the expert team emphasized on the biosecurity measures, the supervision of animal movement restrictions and continuation of zoning as previously. Following questions of Member States and EFSA, Spain clarified that they will take all necessary measures to prevent disease spread from sheep shearing and will implement a 45-days standstill in holdings directly connected with confirmed outbreaks. The Commission explained that a new amendment of CID 2022/2333 is underway to address the new outbreak.

A.07 Information on adopted scientific opinions on animal welfare on farm.

Withdrawn and postponed to PAFF Committee in June 2023.

B.01 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision on the evolution of animal diseases in the Union.

No item raised.

B.02 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation amending Annex I to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2023/594 of 16 March 2023 laying down special disease control measures for African swine fever.

The Regulation was not presented for vote because there was still an ongoing discussion with the legal service. But, the content was presented to Member States and they were informed that a written consultation will be circulated for vote the following week.

Vote Postponed

B.03 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation amending Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/2002 as regards disease notification and the information to be submitted by the Member States for the approval and reporting of compulsory and optional eradication programmes and in applications for disease-free status.

The Commission invited Member States to vote on the draft Implementing Regulation, which had already been presented to the Committee in its previous meeting in April.

Vote taken: Favourable opinion.

B.04 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision amending the Annex to Implementing Decision (EU) 2021/641 concerning emergency measures in relation to outbreaks of highly pathogenic avian influenza in certain Member States.

EU regionalization for HPAI needed to be updated to take into account restricted zones established for new outbreaks of HPAI in Germany, France and Poland.

Vote taken: Favourable opinion.

M.01 Guidelines for Member States for funding of veterinary emergency measures.

The Commission presented the reasons for the update, the main changes and where to find the updated guidelines for the veterinary emergency measures.

M.02 Maintenance of restricted zones for Categ A diseases.

The Commission clarified how the legal basis for the measures for prevention and control of Category A diseases needs to be considered, focusing on the conditions required for lifting of the control measures in restricted zones established for outbreaks of such diseases. In this sense it has been highlighted that provisions of Regulation (EU) 2016/429 (AHL, Article 68) and of Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/687 (Articles 39 and 55) need to be read in parallel and implemented as required in both of these legal acts. In particular, clarifications have been provided regarding final cleaning and disinfection and the starting point for counting of the minimum duration of restricted zones.

M.03 Transitional arrangements for the application of provisions of Article 124(e) of Regulation (EU) 2020/692.

The EU Member States informally agreed on a pragmatic and flexible solution to temporarily accept consignments of poultry in compliance with Article 124(e) of Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/692 certified, using the current MODEL POU - Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/2235 - until it is amended to enable certification of the provision in the new Article 124(e).